

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The attached Notice to File Corrected Application Papers of December 18, 2003 has been carefully reviewed and this response, in the form of a Preliminary Amendment, addresses the concerns stated in the Notice.

The attached Notice states that required item(s) identified must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment. The Notice states that the required items are replacement drawings in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.84 and 37 CFR § 1.121. The Notice further states that the drawings submitted are not acceptable because there are missing lead lines on Figures 2O and 4C.

With respect to the comments within the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers requiring replacement drawings, in particular Figures 2O and 4C, because lead lines are missing, the following response is presented. Figures 2O and 4C are not part of this application and, therefore, the requirement for missing lead lines is not appropriate. However, in order to fully comply with this Notice to File Corrected Application Papers, Applicants respond herein with a Preliminary Amendment to the specification that deletes references to FIGs. 2O and 4C, neither of which drawings were submitted with the originally-filed application. Applicants further submit within this Preliminary Amendment typographical and clerical corrections to the specification and claims in order to place the application in better condition for examination and allowance. No new matter has been added by way of the Preliminary Amendment and all changes made therein find their basis in the original application as filed.

Appl. No. 10/669,620
Amtd. Dated February 11, 2004
Reply to Notice to File Corrected Application Papers of December 18, 2003
Docket No.: 10030589-1

The following information is presented in the event that a call may be deemed desirable by the Customer Service Center of the Initial Patent Examination Division:

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Respectfully submitted,
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